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Alaska Department of Fish and Game

NEWS

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Registration Hunts Must Be Reported

Hunters who get registration permits this year must report within the time required or they will not be eligible for any registration, drawing and Tier II hunting permits next year. They may also be faced with a fine.

Under a new regulation passed by the Board of Game, this is the first year that people who fail to report on registration hunts will be placed on an ineligible list. Drawing and Tier II permit hunts have had an ineligible list for several years.

"Hunter reports give us valuable data, and we depend on them," said Wildlife Division Director Matt Robus. "We need to consider timely information from hunters before we make management decisions that affect the health of wildlife resources across the state."

Reporting on registration permit hunts has been required by hunting regulations for many years, but a possible fine was the only penalty, and a growing number of hunters have failed to report. The Department of Fish and Game has been forced to spend increasing amounts of scarce budget dollars sending thousands of reminder letters and the State Troopers have issued hundreds of citations, but incomplete reporting has remained a problem. As a result, the Board of Game

decided to institute the ineligible list as an additional consequence for failing to file a hunt report in a timely fashion.

The applicable reporting deadline is listed on each hunt permit. Hunters who get a registration permit this fall and do not report by the deadline will not be eligible to receive any hunt permits during the regulatory year that runs from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. Hunters who fail to report may also be cited by State Troopers for a violation of hunting regulations.

Hunters will be notified by mail at the end of the required reporting period if they have failed to report and will be given a two-week grace period to provide the information. Failure to provide the information within the grace period will result in placement on the ineligible list. Hunters who feel the action was taken by mistake will have until 180 days after the permit hunt closed to appeal.

Hunters can contact the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game for more information.

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